

**Torrance County  
DWI Planning Council Meeting  
May 15, 2024  
1:00 PM**

**1. Call Meeting to order.**

Debbie Ortiz, Chairwoman, called the May 15, 2024, DWI Planning Council Meeting to order at 1:03 PM

**2. Determination of Quorum**

Quorum met

**3. Introductions and Welcome of Guests**

Debbie Ortiz – Chairwoman

Adrian Ortiz – Teen Court

Rebecca Armstrong – Juvenil Justice Board, Estancia

Melissa Nandino – Take-Action Counseling

Rachel Priest – Torrance County Court Compliance Officer

Amanda Lujan – Torrance County Grant Administrator

Deanna Lopez – Torrance County DWI Program Coordinator

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Melissa Nandino – Motion to approve

Rebecca Armstrong – Second the motion

Motion carried to approve agenda as proposed.

**5. Approval of Minutes from 2/21/24 Meeting**

No meeting minutes to approve.

**6. FY 2025 LDWI Distribution and Grant Application Update**

Deanna Lopez stated that Torrance County requested the following for FY25:

\$105,485 Distribution

\$186,200 Grant

\$291,685 Total

At the meeting on May 1, 2024, Deanna Lopez stated Torrance County found out it will be receiving the following for FY25:

\$108,682 Distribution

\$100,000 Grant

\$208,682 Total

Deanna Lopez stated the budget for 2025 was significantly lowered. Debbie verified the amounts. Rebecca Armstrong asked why it was lowered. Deanna Lopez responded that Torrance County received a low rating on the grant application due to transition from predecessor retiring and the Grant Administrator had to write the grant.

## 7. **Coordinator Update**

### a. Q3 Report –

- Grant Expenditures \$20,791.56  
\$36,625.58 remaining for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter
- Distribution Expenditures \$12,200.10  
\$57,875.50 remaining for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter
- Total remaining for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter is \$94,501.08

### Smart Choice Ride Program Promotion

- 9 rides since 4/1/24 but can boost campaign to make people more aware of the program.
- Media campaign via The Independent and 102.1 East Mountain Radio (local radio station). Going to take key chains, pins, coasters, and placemats to liquor-serving establishments. In the process of ordering foam hands for the three schools located in Torrance County with Smart Choice Ride information. The foam hands will have the school's name, mascot and colors.
  - Debbie Ortiz said to make sure to get approval of foam hands from schools.

Administered breathalyzers to 50 students at Mountainair's Prom and to 160 students at Moriarty's prom and worked with PHTC for After-Prom Parties are Mountainair, Moriarty, and Estancia Proms. There were 100 students at Estancia's Prom.

Using money from 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter for Enforcement. DWI is working with State Police, Torrance County Sheriff's, Town of Estancia PD and City of

Moriarty PD to have more patrols for graduations through Memorial Day weekend and through the end of June. DWI is working on getting more patrol operations. Debbie Ortiz stated she understood that the Town of Estancia doesn't have a Chief right now. Deanna Lopez hadn't heard that, but was in contact with the Town of Estancia Admin.

Debbie Ortiz stated that foam fingers are a good idea but asked Deanna Lopez if she had checked with the schools to make sure they'll be allowed. Deanna Lopez stated she hadn't but would. Debbie Ortiz stated that the schools don't want some of the messaging, so to make sure the messaging is okay and to distribute. Deanna Lopez stated that she knew Adrian had attended games during Quarter 3, so she would attend tag along and distribute foam fingers. Adrian Ortiz stated to talk to the school and do a promotion like the Isotopes do, like the first hundred people that come in get a foam finger so that way we're boosting their attendance. He thinks it'll be okay since it's for Smart Choice Ride and that it's when we get into some of the other messaging that we get push back, which he doesn't understand because none of us want kids to drink. Debbie and Deanna concurred with that. Deanna is trying to order 1,000 foam fingers for Moriarty and Estancia and 500 foam fingers for Mountainair. Adrian stated it's a good way to get the message out and suggested purchasing noise makers because they're not too expensive because they're plastic and bang them together. He also stated all those kinds of things are fantastic as long as the schools on board. Adrian stated the biggest thing is getting the schools on board, but that some of the schools are going through transition. Adrian told Deanna to contact Dr. Sims at Estancia Schools and to contact Jennifer Vigil at Mountainair and to talk to Natalie in Moriarty. Deanna stated she'd contact them.

Rebecca Armstrong asked Deanna Lopez about having less funds to the tune of about \$80,000, what cutbacks is the DWI Program going to need to make. Deanna Lopez stated DWI will be cutting back with PTMI because they were assisting while Deanna's predecessor was out at the end of last year because I'm in the office now. Deanna also stated that Waves will not be utilized because our contract was geared more towards enforcement this year, so she'll have to spend more money on enforcement this year. Rebecca then asked if Waves can self-sustain with that funding cut. Deanna stated she didn't know but had talked to Rebecca (Sonnenberg) this morning and that seemed okay with it. Deanna stated she did let her (Rebecca Sonnenberg) know they wouldn't have any funding for FY25. Debbie Ortiz asked how the dollar amount for Waves in FY24. Deanna responded that it's almost

\$14,000 a year. Adrian Ortiz stated that United Way is assisting with paying for Waves office space and any scholarships and gift card incentives. Adrian also stated that Waves bills insurances for its services. Adrian then stated that as long as we can reduce the amount of no shows, and they have ideas for that. Adrian then told Debbie that he was going to tell her earlier that he had spoken with Rebecca Sonnenberg who requested gift cards to someone to attend regularly, so they'll get that for them.

Deanna also mentioned that DWI is going out for RFP for the Evaluator.

#### **8. Court Compliance Officer Update**

- Processing a lot of paperwork
- Released approximately 5 from probation with possibly 5 more to release because satisfactorily completed
- One person in detox program and then move on to rehab
- One person trying to get into rehab
- Approximately 10 trials in the next month and about 5 pre-trials
  - Debbie asked if they're DWI. Rachel responded that they're drug related and the person trying to get into rehab is DWI. Debbie asked if he considered going into DWI Court, but Rachel stated he didn't qualify.
- Deanna thanked Rachel for hitting the ground running and inherited a lot of files that are in no order. Deanna also thanked her for going with her to do breathalyzers at the proms and going on her own to Mountainair's graduation to administer breathalyzers. Deanna thanked Rachel for all her hard work.

#### **9. Teen Court Update**

- 6 cases on Monday for battery, substance abuse for vaping or cannabis, and truancy, 4 pending, 10 juvenile probations are getting processed and will be sent to Teen Court. Summer slows down. Truancy will be sent over to Rebecca Armstrong to get the family involved because Teen Court may not be equipped for truancy.
- Adrian's term as President of Teen Court Association ended, but he was elected Treasurer of Teen Court Association for the second time.
- Estancia Municipal Schools is working to implement Teen Court into their discipline matrix, but having government class be judge and attorneys and they'll take care of any school violations on campus and their sentences will be on campus to reduce suspensions.

- Adrian also stated he had to submit an RFP for Teen Court.
  - Debbie stated that Teen Court has moved forward since he took over and that he wins the RFP because there is good momentum right now.
  - Deanna also thanked Adrian for helping her with the transition to her job as Coordinator. Adrian knows everything and everyone and that he goes above and beyond. Adrian stated he's happy that everyone is working together now and there isn't division anymore. Debbie stated it's nice that the whole circle is working together now and that we have a lot of momentum right now. She also thanked everyone for working together to make it work and for the collaboration because it's good for our community, schools and programs.

## 10. Evaluation Update

- Frank is on vacation, so did not attend the meeting.

## 11. PTMI Update

- Attended RESPECT program in Mountainair for Senior Class and did presentation on cannabis.
- After-Prom Parties and Graduation
  - Hand out flyers at graduations regarding 4<sup>th</sup> degree felony to serve alcohol to minors and on cannabis and the overdose of it.
  - Adrian getting certified for Johnny's Ambassador Program. Adrian is also working on getting funding to bring Johnny's Ambassador program to the three schools in the district. Johnny's Ambassador is about a teenage boy who was good in school who smoked some pot. In college he starts to get some stuff psychologically and commits suicide. Laura Stack has been spreading the word. Debbie stated they met Laura Stack at the CADCA conference last year and that people don't understand the psychotic effect of marijuana on the brain. Debbie stated that this brilliant person jumped off a parking garage in Colorado, so people who work in prevention are working to help people understand the traumatic effects of marijuana. Debbie Ortiz stated she thinks marijuana is a gateway drug and that there needs to be more push at the state level for more regulation. Adrian stated that toxicity is a challenge now because the THC is a higher concentrate and is

causing a lot of major issues that is happening. Adrian thinks working with parents to get information about it to them.

- Taking lock bags/lock boxes to dispensaries
- NA reporting is intensive
- Attending CADCA in July. May not be able to attend next DWI Planning Council Meeting
- Certified to do NARCAN training

**12. Member Comments**

- Rebeccas stated Juvenile Justice Meeting in June, but none in May due to holiday
- Melissa agreed that it seems better and happier and has more courage to talk next time.

**13. Public Comment**

- Deanna mentioned that she and Adrian will be at Tractor Safety Parade on June 8, 2024. The golf cart and impaired goggles will be at the event.
- Deanna also mentioned that she and Adrian and his team will be at Edgewood's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Torrance County and Santa Fe County will collaborate at the end of June.

**14. Next Meeting 7/17/24 at 1pm**

- Debbie stated that her and Adrian will be in Chicago for the CADCA conference so it might have to be rescheduled.

**15. Adjourn**

Melissa motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rachel second the motion. The meeting adjourned at 01:36 PM

  
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Debbie Ortiz - Chairwoman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The Video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on the Torrance County NM website. ([torrancecountynm.org](http://torrancecountynm.org))